

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512

April 21, 2003

Dear Librarian:

**DOCUMENT HANDLING FOR THE MODESTO IRRIGATION DISTRICT
GENERATING STATION (MEGS), 95-MEGAWATT (MW) PROJECT (03-SPPE-1)**

Please make the enclosed application for a Small Power Plant Exemption (SPPE) available to those who may wish to be informed about the project. We request that you not allow the SPPE application or any of its contents be removed from the library. To increase accessibility of the document, we ask, if possible, that you cross-reference it as a general reference work under the title and author categories, as well as under such subjects as "Energy Commission," "electricity energy/generation," "power plant siting," or any other relevant subject.

The Energy Commission's review process is open to the public and incorporates the input of the public as well as local, state, and federal agencies. To facilitate public participation, we distribute copies of the SPPE application to libraries in Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Diego, Fresno, and Eureka, as well as to public libraries in communities near the proposed project.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please contact James W. Reede, Jr., Siting Project Manager, at (916) 653-1245 or by email to jreede@energy.state.ca.us.

Sincerely,

PAUL RICHINS, Jr.
Energy Facilities Licensing Program Manager

Enclosure

To: MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE REVIEW OF MODESTO IRRIGATION DISTRICT
GENERATING STATION (MEGS), 95-MEGAWATT (MW) PROJECT
APPLICATION FOR SMALL POWER PLANT EXEMPTION (03-SPPE-1)**

On April 21, 2003, Modesto Irrigation District (MID) filed the enclosed application for a Small Power Plant Exemption (SPPE) seeking an exemption from the California Energy Commission's (Energy Commission) licensing requirements.

MID proposes to construct and operate a 95-megawatt (MW) generation plant called the Modesto Irrigation District Electric Generation Station (MEGS). The natural gas-fired simple cycle plant will consist of two General Electric LM 6000 SPRINT combustion turbines. Part of the proposed project includes the construction of approximately .25 miles of new 69-kV sub-transmission line and fiber optic cable, approximately .25 miles of new eight-inch natural gas supply line, and water supply and wastewater tap lines into the existing City of Ripon lines located in South Stockton Avenue. The project is proposed to be located on a 12.25-acre site at South Stockton Avenue and Doak Boulevard in Ripon, California, in San Joaquin County and will occupy approximately six acres near the northern side of the project site. If an exemption is granted, the applicant will need to secure the appropriate licenses and permits for the project from various local, state and federal agencies.

The Energy Commission is responsible for reviewing and ultimately approving or denying all thermal electric power plants, 50 MW and greater, proposed for construction in California. The Energy Commission's SPPE process allows projects between 50 and 100 (MW) to proceed with local approval rather than requiring an Energy Commission license. An exemption from this licensing process is available if the Energy Commission finds that the project will not create a substantial adverse impact on the environment or energy resources. The Energy Commission is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and will prepare an Initial Study that will examine public health and safety, and environmental impacts of the proposed project including all related facilities such as electric transmission lines, natural gas pipelines and waterlines.

Over the next four months, the Energy Commission will conduct a number of public workshops and hearings on the proposal to determine whether the project should be approved for construction and operation and under what set of conditions. These workshops and hearings will provide the public as well as local, state, and federal agencies the opportunity to ask questions about, and provide input on, the proposed project. The Energy Commission will issue notices for these workshops and hearings,

normally 14 days, but in no case later than 10 days, prior to the meeting. If you are not currently receiving these notices and want to be placed on the mailing list, please contact Angela Hockaday, Project Secretary, at (916) 654-3925 or e-mail at ahockada@energy.state.ca.us. You may also subscribe to receive e-mail notification of all notices at <http://www.energy.ca.gov.html/listservers.html>.

If you desire information on participating in the Energy Commission's review of the project, please contact Ms. Roberta Mendonca, the Energy Commission's Public Adviser, at (916) 654-4489 or toll free in California, at (800) 822-6228. Technical or project schedule questions should be directed to James W. Reede, Jr., Energy Commission Project Manager, at (916) 653-1245. The status of the project, copies of notices, and other relevant documents are also available on the Energy Commission's Internet web site at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/ripon.html>. News media inquiries should be directed to Assistant Executive Director, Claudia Chandler, at (916) 654-4989.

Note: Please retain this letter behind the front cover of the SPPE. Thank You.